

VISIT TO SACATON BRINGS OUT MENACE TO SUPPLY OF VALLEY'S PURE SEED COTTON

The annual visit of the Salt River valley cotton growers was made to the government experiment station at Sacaton last Thursday. This station is of particular interest to the cotton industry of this region, because not only was a considerable part of the early cotton breeding work done there, but also many of the cultural problems were worked out.

Salt River valley growers were met at the station by a representative from Pinal county, headed by E. S. Turville, Pinal county agricultural agent.

The entertainment features are deserving of special mention, especially the generous quantities of lemonade and coffee supplied by ladies of Sacaton. The shore-shoe pitching contest after lunch between William Cook, ex-

tenation director of the university, and William Cook, cattleman of Phoenix, Dwight B. Heard and H. C. Heard, both of Phoenix, and finally the four-cornered contest between the Cooks and the Heards, was notable, probably nothing of the kind having ever been done in just the same way before. No particular comments have been made as to the accuracy of the players, but certainly many were impressed with the somewhat novel and decidedly individual styles of delivery of each of the contestants. Since three of the contestants were from Phoenix, Phoenix was well represented and carried off most of the honors.

Dr. T. H. Kearney Talks. The most interesting feature of the visit was an address by Dr. T. H. Kearney, who has been working on American-Egyptian cotton since its introduction in 1901, and who was the originator of the Pima and Yuma varieties. The substance of Dr. Kearney's address follows:

"The behavior of Pima cotton under our experiments soon after the variety was first isolated, and our experience with it under commercial conditions, has demonstrated the remarkable purity of the variety and its habit of yielding few off-type plants. Consequently, we did not expect deterioration in the purity of our seed supply as long as care was used in keeping fields sufficiently isolated from other varieties, and proper provisions were made to prevent admixture at the gins.

"Fortunately, there was a co-operative organization formed at Tempe by a representative group of cotton growers, who included as one of the functions of the Tempe cotton exchange the perpetuation of a supply of pure planting seed for the valley. Many of the details incident to substituting Pima for the old Yuma variety and perpetuation of pure Pima seed were turned over to the co-operative farmers' association by the United States department of agriculture. A field of 40 acres or more has been required every season and all off-type plants removed.

Big Increase in Acreage. "This field has been sufficiently isolated to prevent contamination from outside sources and the gin has always been carefully cleaned before seed cotton from this field has been ginned. The season following roguing, seed from this field has been distributed to a number of the substantial growers throughout the Tempe district, as far as possible in a solid block, for multiplication and use as general planting seed the next year. Thus the entire valley was supplied with this pure seed the second season from roguing until the 1920 planting season.

"In 1920 the valley was faced with a peculiar problem due to the enormous increase in cotton acreage and to unfavorable seasonal conditions which necessitated a great amount of replanting. The demand for planting seed, therefore, was greater than the supply

DRILL GROUNDS IS TOWN GIFT TO TROOP

That the city of Williams has given the national guard organization at that place forty acres of land for drill and stable grounds was the word brought to Phoenix yesterday by Adjutant General Walter S. Ingalls, on his return from a three days' absence in the north on an inspection trip.

Colonel Ingalls was enthusiastic in his praise of the fine spirit shown in Williams where the men have signed up in Troop C, First Cavalry, Arizona National Guard. At a recent election the troop elected Albert M. Root Jr., as captain, Jerry W. Lee as first lieutenant, and Charles M. Proctor as second lieutenant.

With the splendid organization and gift of the grounds the people of Williams are now eager to build an armory, said the colonel, who brought the additional news from that town that Dr. Clymer D. Jeffries of that place had just received his appointment as first lieutenant in the medical reserve corps.

While in Flagstaff the adjutant general inspected Battery A, First Arizona field artillery, which he says has a number one standing in Washington. The \$30,000 armory will be completed by Dec. 15. The state contributed \$20,000 to the fund, the remainder of which was donated by residents of Coconino county. The land was donated, and at present the city is building stables at a cost of \$6,000 as its gift to the organization.

and it was necessary to plan considerable oil mill seed. The latter proved to be contaminated to a considerable extent with seed of the old Yuma variety and short staple cotton, as well as numerous hybrids. While there is not enough admixture of this off-type cotton to seriously affect the quality of the staple of this year's crop, yet the purity of the seed supply for the valley is seriously jeopardized unless radical steps are taken to correct the condition.

Plan Is Formed. "Consequently, a plan has been worked out whereby it is believed that sufficient pure Pima planting seed can be secured for 1921 to plant 150,000 acres. This plan must receive the support of the entire cotton industry of the Salt River valley if its details are to be successfully applied. It includes selection and inspection of as many large acreages as possible of pedigreed Pima seed, the cotton from which is to be carefully ginned in plants devoted exclusively to ginning pedigreed seed. Due precautions are to be taken to insure a reasonable germination and a certification tag is to be attached evidencing the source and purity of the seed. This seed, of course, must be made available to all the gins for distribution, which must be restricted to the Salt River valley, unless there appears to be a surplus. Details of the plan have been and are being worked out by a pure seed committee of the Maricopa county farm bureau and arrangements have largely been completed.

"In view of the deterioration of numerous excellent varieties in other long staple districts, the importance of getting back to a pure seed basis can hardly be overstated."

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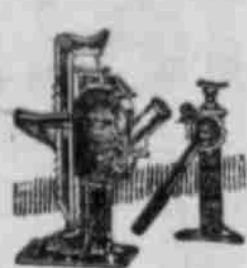
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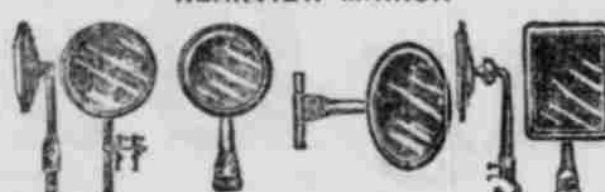
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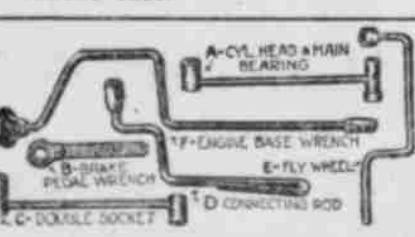
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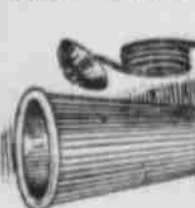


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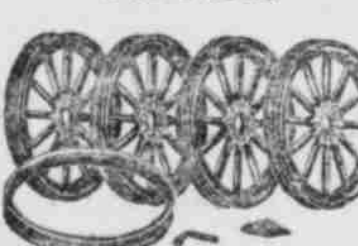
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